

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 L-03 H-02 SAJ-01 /063 W

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

SECSTATE WASHDC 2146

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PGOV, WB, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: EXPANSION OF PAN AM TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN

REF: CLUNAN-GALLAGHER MEMCON DTD FEB 27

1. MOVING FASTER THAN ORIGINALLY ANTICIPATED((REF MEMCON), PAN AM BERLIN INFORMED PRESS THAT IT WOULD SOON BE COMMENCING TRAINING FLIGHTS FROM TEMPELHOF AIRPORT. TRAINING WOULD BE FOR AIR CREWS OF 727 AIRCRAFT, WHICH PAN AM HAS CONCENTRATED IN BERLIN FOLLOWING CLOSURE OF ITS CARIBBEAN SERVICE AND ITS MIAMI OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE BASE FOR THIS SERVICE. PAN AM WILL ALSO PERFORM ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE IN BERLIN AT TEGEL AIRPORT. THIS MAINTENANCE WILL INVOLVE SHOPWORK AND INTERIOR REFURBISHING OF THE AIRCRAFT. ANNOUNCEMENT BY PAN AM OCCASIONED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ON PART OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM TEMPELHOF DISTRICT DURING QUESTION PERIOD OF MEETING OF BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON MARCH 11. BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY OFFICE OF US ADMINISTRATOR FOR AERONAUTICS
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SENATOR KORBER CONFIRMED THAT PAN AM WOULD BE MAKING

TRAINING FLIGHTS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THEY WOULD BE FEW IN NUMBER AND THAT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. WHILE KORBER EMPHASIZED POSITIVE ASPECTS OF PAN AM DECISION, SENAT OFFICIALS PRIVATELY EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT OVER FAILURE TO LEARN OF PLAN PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT IN PRESS.

2. FRENCH MISSION HAS ALSO EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT THESE PAN AM ACTIVITIES MIGHT SOMEHOW INFRINGE AIR NOISE MEASURES DESCRIBED IN BK/L(75)7, BUT WE ARE CERTAIN THAT NONE OF THE POINTS OF THAT BK/L(ENGINE RUN-UPS, MAINTENANCE HANGAR EXPANSION, AND CURFEW) WOULD BE VIOLATED. PAN AM HAS TAKEN PAINS TO EMPHASIZE THAT AIRCRAFT WOULD BE FLYING WITH MINIMUM AMOUNT OF FUEL AND WOULD THEREFORE NOT MAKE MUCH NOISE ON TAKE OFF. ALSO FLIGHTS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS AND NOT COME CLOSE TO EITHER BOUNDARY OF CRFEW. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE ASKING BACC WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW PAN AM TRAINING FLIGHT PROGRAM IN TERMS OF AIR SAFETY AND AIR NOISE CONSIDERATIONS.

3. ANOTHER POSITIVE ASPECT OF PAN AM DECISION IS USE OF TEMPELHOF WILL ALSO PROVIDE VALUABLE TRAINING TO USAF TOWER AND BARTCC CONTROLLERS. PLAN IS THEREFORE WELCOMED BY USAF COMMANDER HERE.

4. PAN AM IS ALSO CONTEMPLATING MOVING ITS 727 FLIGHT SIMULATOR TO BERLIN, AND WE ARE EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF INSTALLING THIS LARGE DEVICE IN A HANGAR AT TEMPELHOF AIRPORT. USE OF THIS SIMULATOR IS ESPECIALLY VALUABLE IN TESTING PILOT REACTIONS TO EMERGENCY SITUATIONS, SUCH AS LOSS OF ENGINE ON TAKE OFF OR LOSS OF BRAKES ON LANDING. SINCE THESE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES CAN BE EFFECTIVELY TESTED WITH SIMULATOR, THEY NEED NOT BE DONE IN ACTUAL FLIGHT --POINT WHICH WE WILL MAKE TO SAFETY-CONSCIOUS BERLIN OFFICIALS. GEORGE

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